

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USINT HAVANA
USLO PEKING

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E.O. 11652/ N/A
TAGS: PERP, CU, CZ
SUBJECT: CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

1. CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER ISIDORO MALMIERCA PEOLI VISITED CZECHOSLOVAKIA AUGUST 4-8 AND HAD TALKS WITH PRESIDENT HUSAK, PREMIER STROUGAL AND FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK. LARGE PART OF HIS TIME WAS SPENT IN VISITS TO KARLOVY VARY AND BRATISLAVA, WHERE HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY CHNOUPEK FOR TOURS OF GLASS FACTORIES AND POSSIBLY TRAINING FACILITIES FOR CUBANS; HE ALSO CALLED ON HUSAK AT LANY.

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2. REPORTAGE AND FINAL COMMUNIQUE EMPHASIZED HIGH LEVEL OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION THAT EXISTS AND DESIRE TO INCREASE EXISTING CLOSE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION IN FOREIGN POLICY, WITH A CONSPICUOUSLY PRO-SOVIET SLANT. LATTER POINT WAS UNDERLINED BY SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTRIES, ALTHOUGH CONTENT OF THAT COOPERATION WAS NOT REVEALED.

3. COMMUNIQUE IS GENERALLY ALONG STANDARD LINES FOR VISITS BETWEEN COMMUNIST LEADERS BUT CONTAINS SEVERAL ITEMS OF INTEREST:

(A) IN SECTION GLORIFYING CUBAN ATTACHMENT TO CAUSE OF PEACE AND THE STRUGGLE OF PEOPLES FOR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE, IT CITES CUBAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WITH ANGOLA, ETHIOPIA AND OTHER AFRICAN PEOPLES "THREATENED BY IMPERIALISM". IN LATER SECTION TWO SIDES PROCLAIM "THEY AGREED THAT UPHOLDING PRINCIPLES OF INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, INVIOABILITY OF FRONTIER, AND NONINTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFIARS OF AFRICAN STATES IN CONFORMITY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE UN CHARTER AND AIMS AND DECISIONS OF THE OAU ANSWER THE INTERESTS OF REDUCING TENSIONS AND SECURIMNG PEACE IN THAT REGION". COMMENT: A PROBE OF THE HIGHER REACHES OF HYPOCRISY. END COMMENT.

(B) "MASS TERROR AND CRUDE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS" IN CHILE WERE ROUNDLY CONDEMNED. COMMENT: CZECHOSLOVAK MEDIA GIVE EXTENSIVE ATTENTION TO SITUATION IN CHILE, BUT WE DO NOT RECALL A PREVIOUS COMMUNIQUE IN WHICH CZECHOSLOVAKIA HAS JOINED IN OFFICIALLY CONDEMNING HUNAM RIGHTS SITUATION THERE. CZECHOSLOVAK REGIME HAS CONSISTENTLY REJECTED FOREIGN OFFICIAL COMMENT ON ITS OWN HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS AS INTERFERENCE IN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS. NEXT TIME WE ARE REBUFFED WITH SUCH A STATEMENT, WE WILL BRING UP THIS COMMUNIQUE. END COMMENT.

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4. COMMUNIQUE WAS ALSO NOTEWORTHY IN CALLING FOR "IMMEDIATE, COMPLETE AND UNCONDITIONAL TERMINATION OF THE ECONOMIC BLOCKADE OF CUBA AND WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FROM CUBAN TERRITORY AT GUANTANAMO", "WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES AND A HALT TO CEASELESS ISTAELI AGGRESSION", AND "RESOLUTE CONDEMNATION OF ATTACKS AGAINST VIETNAM BY THE PRESENT CHINESE LEADERSHIP" AS WELL AS "THE ANTISOCIALIST AND MILITARIST LINE OF THE CURRENT CHINESE LEADERSHIP... IN LEAGUE WITH THE FORCES OF WORLD REACTION".

5. AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ABOLISHING VISA REQUIREMENTS AND INVITATION ISSUED AND ACCEPTED FOR CHNOUPEK TO VISIT CUBA (CHNOUPEK WAS KNOWN TO BE PLANNING VISIT HAVANA, AND WE WONDER WHETHER HE MAY WORK THIS IN DURING HIS REPORTED SEPTEMBER 13 TO OCTOBER 6 TRIP TO UNGA.)

6. DECONTROL 4 YEARS FROM ORIGINATING DATE.
BYRNE

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